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73. A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing the cell with a nucleic acid segment encoding a human sentrin-1 polypeptide.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a human sentrin-1 polypeptide that is at least 85% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a human sentrin-1 polypeptide that is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

76. The method of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

77. The method of claim 76, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 30 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

78. The method of claim 77, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 40 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 50 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

80. The method of claim 79, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 60 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

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81. The method of claim 80, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 70 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

82. The method of claim 81, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 80 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

83. The method of claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

84. The method of claim 83, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 100 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

85. The method of claim 84, wherein the nucleic acid segment is further defined as encoding a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2.

86. The method of claim 73, wherein the cell is comprised within an animal.

87. The method of claim 86, wherein the animal is a human.

88. The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.

89. The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid is provided in a pharmaceutical excipient.

90. The method of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.

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Cont. 91. The method of claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid segment is comprised within a vector.

Sub B² 92. ~~A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing the cell with a nucleic acid segment comprising at least about 50 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.~~

93. ~~The method of claim 92, wherein the nucleic acid segment further comprises at least about 100 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.~~

94. The method of claim 93, wherein the nucleic acid segment further comprises at least about 200 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.

95. The method of claim 94, wherein the nucleic acid segment further comprises at least SEQ ID NO:1.

96. The method of claim 92, wherein the cell is comprised within an animal.

97. The method of claim 96, wherein the animal is a human.

98. The method of claim 96, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.

99. The method of claim 96, wherein the nucleic acid is provided in a pharmaceutical excipient.

100. The method of claim 92, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.